

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. An apparatus and method for capturing, processing and storing still images captured inline from an analog video stream and storing in a digital format on removable non-volatile memory which comprises:

- an interface via S-video or composite video inline to most medical modalities, including; ultrasound machines, intra-oral cameras, endoscopic cameras, or any device with analog video output providing the ability to capture still images from an analog video stream, provide a live picture pass thru, visual and audible verification of image capture;

- providing a user selectable preview function that displays images via unique on-screen display;

- supporting underscan video mode to provide a means to capture patient data from medical imaging devices;

- utilizing user selectable PAL /NTSC video formats to ensure compatibility within international marketplace;

- using video capture circuitry designed to be of a quality to meet a medical imaging application;

- providing a Menu Driven / Front Panel Control User Interface with on-screen messages and review of images via unique On-Screen display;

- utilizing on-board local memory with the ability to store images on multiple removable non-volatile memory devices;

providing Logic Processor interfaces between video capture circuitry and removable non-volatile memory devices in a unique manner to store images on multiple images on removable non-volatile memory devices; and

saving said images to specialized non-volatile memory drives that can be equipped with specialized embedded security key facilitating the storage, manipulation, and distribution of images (conforms to medical digital imaging standards).

2. The invention as claimed in claim 1 wherein the capturing of images from live video to removable non-volatile memory formats utilizes the apparatus video inputs comprises without need of personal computer, and without the need for a computer bus interface.

3. The invention as claimed in claim 1 wherein said video functionality comprise;
a wide range of video frequencies to ensure compatibility with the majority of medical imaging equipment; and

utilizing underscan to provide a means to capture patient data from medical imaging devices.

4. The invention as claimed in claim 1 wherein providing the ability to make available hands free operation via typical contact closure footswitch to capture still images.